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decreasing." This result is probably as surprising to Münsterberg as to Wundt (p. 154). As contrasted with Wundt, Münsterberg is said to be freer from popular prejudice and keener in the analysis of his problems (p. 158). Still Heinrich finds Münsterberg wanting in the psychophysical test; in his discussion of association, for example, he limits himself to an analysis of the processes of consciousness instead of laying bare the underlying physiological processes. Ribot's theory of attention is criticised as representing Münsterberg's view.

Ziehen also is found not to be rigorous enough in the physiological side of his psychology (p. 175), in that he has asserted that there are factors in our mental life for which a material basis is wanting.

Even S. Exner's "Entwurf zu einer physiologischen Erklärung der psy. Erscheinungen" Heinrich does not consider strenuous enough physiologically; whilst in many ways he merits critical approval, still he too has "jumped over to consciousness" in his explanation instead of keeping to the nervous system.

With Avenarius's speculative views, so far as they can be applied to the concrete problems of psychology, Heinrich finds himself mostly in sympathy, and to an exposition of these views he devotes 23 pages.

The writer has thought he could better illustrate the worth of Dr. Heinrich's criticism by a résumé of his conclusions in regard to the authors he has discussed than by a critical review of his arguments—a long and probably not wholly profitable undertaking.

In regard to the way in which Heinrich has applied his psychophysical standard and his somewhat drastic treatment of Wundt, it may be considered an act of poetic justice to quote a passage from Wundt's *Logik*, written some time before the appearance of the first edition of "The Modern Physiological Psychology in Germany." In the second part of the "Methodenlehre" (2nd ed., p. 254), Wundt says "that a naïve ignorance of the actual standpoint of scientific thought is betrayed in the view sometimes found in psychological work, that, according to the principle of parallelism, a physical correlate belongs to every psychical process, and inasmuch as the physical chain of cause and effect offers the advantage of perfect continuity, a psychical process is really explained only when the corresponding physical processes are pointed out."

F. A.

Des Indes à la Planète Mars. Étude sur un cas de somnambulisme avec glossolalie. Par TH. FLOURNOY. Paris, F. Alcan, 1900. pp. xii, 420.

Under the above somewhat dramatic title we have a close, detailed and exhaustive study of a new case of automatism. The subject, known as Hélène Smith, is an unmarried woman of thirty years, strong, healthy, vigorous and, excepting the automatisms to be mentioned, presenting no apparent physical or mental abnormalities. She holds a responsible position as clerk in a mercantile house, and is of unimpeachable character. As a medium, she is unpaid and non-professional. She is not a spiritist nor member of any spiritist society, though she has steadfast faith in the objective character of her revelations. Her father was a talented linguist, the linguistic habit being inherited by Hélène only subconsciously, as primarily she has a distaste for languages, and knows only French. From her mother she inherited her disposition to automatism. As a young girl she led a subjective life, given to brooding, sadness, nervous fear, a feeling of estrangement, and an antagonism to her humble environment to which she felt herself superior. It is well to note also a kind of subjective inventive talent exhibited, for instance, in embroidery work in which her hands moved almost automatically.

Mlle. Smith's automatism did not begin until she was about twenty-

two years old, when she was initiated by some friends into certain table tipping seances. She proved an apt subject, her mediumship exhibiting itself at once in the triple form of visual and auditory hallucinations and typological manifestations. Three years later Professor Flournoy made her acquaintance and began his long and patient study of the case. But from this time her automatism took a more intense form, including, in addition to those mentioned, various hypnoid phenomena, such as the profound trance, anæsthesias, disturbances of motility, catalepsy, emotional attacks and systematic confusion of the right and left sides of the body. Furthermore, between the regular seances, Hélène is subject at any time to visual and auditory hallucinations, irruptions of subliminal dreams and useful subconscious automatisms.

As regards the content of the communications, they fall into four groups or cycles, somewhat like four continued stories. These are the Hindoo cycle, the Royal cycle, the Martian cycle and the Leopold cycle. The latter, however, is different from the others, as Leopold figures to some extent in all of them and bears a relation to Mlle. Smith somewhat similar to that formerly existing between Dr. Phinuit and Mrs. Piper. The Hindoo and the Royal cycles are based upon the pretended reincarnation of a Hindoo princess first as Marie Antoinette, and finally as Hélène Smith. She was the daughter of an Arab sheik, and under the name of Simandini became the wife of the Hindoo prince Sivrouka Nayaca, who, in the year 1401, built the fortress of Tchandra-guiri. This pre-existence she attempts to prove by writing and speaking Arabic and Sanskrit and recounting certain historical events relating to this obscure epoch. The Martian cycle is still more dramatic, and is psychologically the most interesting of all. In trance Hélène discovers herself floating upward through stellar space and arrives upon the planet Mars. She describes the Martian inhabitants, their dress, manners and houses, and draws pictures representing scenes upon that planet. She speaks and writes the Martian language, and finally consents to translate it, word for word, into French. It is a veritable language, inflected, and capable, apparently, of expressing any thought, and is understood by the medium in its fourfold form of a language spoken, heard, written and read. The Martian texts produced are innumerable in number. Many of them, with their translations, are reproduced by the author in the text, together with some of the drawings of Martian scenery. The following is a short specimen of the language: *Dé véchi ké ti éfi mervé éni*, meaning, word for word, *Tu vois que de choses superbes ici*. There is a special script for writing the language resembling hieroglyphics.

The author's critical analysis of these automatisms as psychological phenomena is of a very thorough and systematic kind. This is particularly noticeable in unraveling the mystery of the Martian language. There have been many instances of glossolalia, but it has probably never happened before that one of these "tongues" could be reduced to writing, translated and studied in such detail. Professor Flournoy has brought skill and patience to this task, and it is, perhaps, the most valuable part of the present work.

I can give but the barest summary of the author's conclusions, which he puts forward only as hypotheses, maintaining throughout the book the greatest impartiality towards all shades of opinion. The Martian romance is a subconscious dream suggested probably by Flammarion's work and the interest in spiritistic circles at that time in communicating with the inhabitants of other planets. It is a product of constructive imagination of an essentially infantile character bearing marks of a subjective origin throughout. The Martian language is a puerile modification of French, not made up in cold blood by Hélène,

but is the long continued pastime of a peculiar subconscious personality inheriting linguistic tastes and taking childish delight in these creative fancies. Difficult as this hypothesis seems in its application to the formation of so elaborate a language, nevertheless it is fully confirmed by an experiment which the author himself finally made. He bluntly informed the medium of his opinion of the language and produced incontestible proofs that it was only a modified French, whereupon there followed in future seances an attempt to modify the language and correct its too apparent faults, producing an *ultramartien* unlike any other language. This truly is mental vivisection, and one wonders whether subconscious personalities are capable of feeling pain and weariness!

The Hindoo romance presents some greater difficulties. The facts narrated are finally traced to a single obscure and (unfortunately for the medium) unreliable historian named Marlès, whose work Professor Flournoy's hypothesis makes it necessary that Hélène must at one time have seen, although he admits that that seems improbable. The Arabic is limited to a single phrase and the Sanskrit, although it contains many Sanskrit words and some phrases, is for the most part a jargon.

The chapter on the supranormal is a relatively short one. The author continues in his attitude of fairness towards all theories, exhibiting as great contempt for the bigoted devotee of "science" who has accepted the *a priori* impossibility of the supranormal, and has, therefore, no interest in psychic research, as for the credulous spiritist who detects the spirit of his great aunt in every joggle of a table. He even goes so far, perhaps somewhat to the American reader's surprise, as to affirm his faith in telepathy and the movement of objects without contact. He admits, however, only unsatisfactory evidence for these in the case of Hélène, while all the appearances of clairvoyance, lucidity, incarnations and spirit manifestations are explainable as hypnoid phenomena.

As an example of method this book is to be highly commended, and method is what is needed now in the study of automatism. Any one who should complain that the case of Mlle. Smith is not sufficiently "remarkable" to merit 420 pages of minute description fails to understand the importance of the study of secondary personality. The author's intimations of the infantile and reversionary character of the secondary personality are of interest in the light of recent theories.

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G. T. W. PATRICK.

RECENT NEUROLOGICAL LITERATURE.

By COLIN C. STEWART, Ph. D.

The Nervous System and its Constituent Neurones, designed for the use of practitioners of medicine and of students of medicine and psychology: by LEWELLYS F. BARKER, M. B., Associate Professor of Anatomy in the Johns Hopkins University; 2 colored plates and 676 illustrations, pages xxxii and 1122. New York, D. Appleton & Co., 1899.

Although perhaps too technical for the average reader, and lacking, to a certain extent in completeness when considered from the purely physiological side, Prof. Barker's book will remain for many years one of the readiest and most useful works upon the subject. Systematic arrangement, wealth of detail in every subdivision, and profuse and